

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 6 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and amend Claims 1, 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An image processing method comprising:  
a holding step for holding an original database in which a correction condition corresponding to a reproducing property of an output unit is stored;  
a forming step for, as calibration processing, acquiring from the original database a gradation correction table corresponding to a recording medium to which image output is executed and head rank information of the output unit ~~writing a correction condition formed by calibration processing in said original database~~ to create a new database; and  
a correction processing step for effecting correction processing regarding input data by using the created new database,  
wherein the calibration processing not only creates said new database but also forms a management file based on head identification information of a head used in said output unit.
2. (Original) An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein said management file is held in a file different from a file for holding said new database.

3. (Currently amended) An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein said output unit uses a plurality of heads, the database file is managed on the basis of a combination of the head identification information ~~informations~~ of said heads.

4. (Currently amended) An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein the number of databases created by the calibration is controlled on the basis of said management file, and, when the number of created databases becomes greater than a predetermined value, an oldest database in other already created databases is deleted.

5. (Currently amended) An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein upon uninstallation of a printer driver, all of the created database file and the management files ~~[[file]]~~ are deleted.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:  
holding means for holding an original database in which a correction condition corresponding to a reproducing property of an output unit is stored;  
forming means for, as calibration processing, acquiring from the original database a gradation correction table corresponding to a recording medium to which image output is executed and head rank information of the output unit ~~writing a correction condition formed by calibration processing in the original database~~ to create a new database; and

correction processing means for effecting correction processing regarding input data by using the created new database,

wherein the calibration processing not only creates said new database but also forms a management file based on head discriminating information of a head used in said output unit.

8. (Currently amended) A storage medium which stores therein a program for executing an image processing method ~~An image processing program~~ comprising:

a holding step for holding an original database in which a correction condition corresponding to a reproducing property of an output unit is stored;

a forming step for, as calibration processing, acquiring from the original database a gradation correction table corresponding to a recording medium to which image output is executed and head rank information of the output unit ~~writing a correction condition formed by calibration processing in the original database~~ to create a new database; and

a correction processing step for effecting correction processing regarding input data by using the created new database,

wherein the calibration processing not only creates said new database but also forms a management file based on head identification information of a head used in said output portion.

9. (Currently amended) An image processing method comprising:

a holding step for holding an original database in which a correction condition corresponding to a reproducing property of an output unit is stored;

a forming step for, as calibration processing, acquiring from the original database a gradation correction table corresponding to a recording medium to which image output is executed and head rank information of the output unit ~~writing a correction condition formed by calibration processing in said original database~~ to create a new database; and

a correction processing step for effecting correction processing regarding input data by using the created new database,

wherein the calibration processing not only creates said new database but also forms a management file on the basis of head identification information ~~informations~~ of heads used in said output unit; and

~~said management file is held in a file different from a file for holding said new database.~~